SDSU General Education Committee
Meeting minutes
May 8, 2017

Members present: Culbertson, Dean, Mattingly, Samuels, Sandquist, Shultz, Sha, Wilson, Verity, Youssef
Guests: Eniko Csomay, CAL Senator
Absent: Garrity

1. April 24 minutes approved

2. Committee business
    a. Chair Doreen Mattingly announced that she will be stepping down as chair next year, concurrent with the end of her second term in the Senate. She introduced Senator Eniko Csomay, who will take over her seat as CAL representative.

        Csomay communicated her willingness to be chair of the committee next year. It was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved.

    b. Norah Shultz summarized the process to date (summarized in her report to the Provost) and assured the committee that she would communicate with them regularly about the process as it gets underway next year.

3. Courses currently before committee
    These courses are part of a package from Engineering. All the courses have the intention of responding to the need for Engineering programs to reduce the total number of units required while maintaining the coursework needed for accreditation. The approach embodied in these proposals is to uses courses in the various Engineering majors to satisfy Social and Behavioral Science requirements. This is an approach that has been employed at other CSUs. The committee debated the merits of this approach at great length. Those in favor of the proposals argues that this is the best way to address this bottleneck, especially Since Engineering faculty have revised their classes to include Social/Behavioral sciences content. Those opposing argued that this is a further dilution of the GE and that, despite revision, these courses do not meet the requirements to be included.

a. ME 490A: Engineering Design: Senior Project
    This course would only be open to ME majors. Approving this class is contingent on the Senate granting an exception to the policy that courses in a student's major department cannot be used to satisfy the Explorations requirement.

    The course has been modified to include more social and behavioral content. The revised course description reads: *Applications of engineering principles and design techniques to the designing, building, and testing of an engineering system. A single project is completed in this two-course sequence (ME490A/B) and is judged completed upon presentation of an oral and a written report. In addition, issues related to engineering ethics practice are discussed, as well as elements of social and behavioral sciences for exploration of human experiences are discussed. The latter include interdisciplinary, cause-and-effect of problem-solution, and global awareness of the impact of synthesized solution.*

    The proposal was approved on a vote of 7 yes, 1 no, 1 abstention

b. AE 460: Aerospace Engineering Applications
    The course description is unchanged. The course was sent back to the proposer because section 39C of the proposal (General Education, Capabilities) was not complete.

c. ME 202: Computer Programming and Application
    Course description: *Principles of programming using Matlab. Syntax topics include data types, loops, control flow, arrays, and functions. Numerical Methods covered include matrix operations, Gauss Reduction, Newton Raphson, curve fitting, interpolation, numerical differentiation and numerical integration. Application areas in mechanical engineering include finite element analysis, dynamic systems, graphical user interfaces, and image analysis.*

No Senate exception is needed for this class since students can use courses from their pre-major to use for GE. This course would only be open to ME majors.

Approved: 6 yes, 3 no

d. CIV E 220: Civil and Environmental Engineering Computer Applications
    Description: *Graphical information systems (GIS), specialized civil engineering software, advanced problem solving.*

No Senate exception is needed for this class since students can use courses from their pre-major to use for GE. This course would only be open to CIV E majors.

Approved: 6 yes, 3 no

e. MATH 141: Pre-calculus

This is a minor change to an existing GE course to correspond to new procedures for student placement in Mathematics courses. Specifically, a prerequisite will be added requiring proof of completion of Entry-Level Mathematics requirement and qualification on the Mathematics Department Proficiency Examination.

Approved unanimously

Respectfully submitted, Doreen Mattingly